

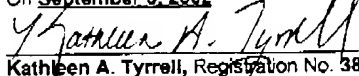
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: ISPH-0591
Inventors: Crooke and Graham
Serial No.: 09/917,963
Filing Date: July 30, 2001
Examiner: Sean McGarry
Group Art Unit: 1645
Title: Antisense Modulation of Microsomal
Triglyceride Transfer Protein Expression

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On September 3, 2002


Kathleen A. Tyrrell, Registration No. 38,350

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is being amended and claim 3 canceled to facilitate the search and examination of this invention.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 3.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to the triglyceride transfer protein